

Keep up to  
date with the  
Booker  
Whatsapp  
group

The club is currently closed...



...for the duration of the current lockdown

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The view east towards Aboyne and the sea



## Members' achievements

### Darton Bell – conversion to Pegase

Darton started flying at Surrey Hills where he went solo at age 15. He came to Booker having met Graham Saw at Lasham and been introduced to aerobatics. He took advantage of the last day of flying in November to try the Pegase for size. He has done most of his Bronze, just the exam to go.



### ABOYNE FIRSTS

#### Matt Porter, Andy Duncan, Russell Woakes, Rob Hines

All four achieved their first Aboyne solo, in fact for Matt the expedition was the first time he had flown anywhere but Booker. And Matt also experienced his first wave flight. As he set off on the journey home he commented that he had had *'a fantastic trip during which I've ticked off quite a few gliding firsts'*.





## From the Treasurer

In the year to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 we were hit hard by Covid. However, in adversity we pulled together and thanks to Richard organising us, we had some good fun at Chiltern Park and then came back to Booker and managed to fit in with the new slot system. One of the good things to see during this time was the great club spirit.

Our financial position was hit despite receiving government grants, reducing staff numbers and putting our staff on furlough. During this time the Northside move planning has been progressing, albeit slower than we might have liked, but there have been some good developments as shared at the AGM in October. We have also taken a Bounce Back Loan to help us through the next year.

What can we do to help, I hear you say. Well, when we are allowed to fly again, please do fly as much as you can. As I write, we are in lockdown again, so that is not possible, but I hope that we can resume solo flying and training after this short pause.

The Committee recently reviewed the fees for next year and we have agreed increase them in line with the inflation that the club experiences.

As usual, you can save money by paying for your membership at the current full rate in December and I would encourage members to do this to help the club avoid expensive overdraft costs during the winter period.



The fees for this year are as follows:

### Full Flying Members

Regular rate payable by 31 <sup>st</sup> March	£845
Early payment rate paid by 31 <sup>st</sup> December (last year's rate)	£820
Late payment - after 15 <sup>th</sup> April	£980
Direct debit - 9 payments from 1 <sup>st</sup> April	£98 pcm
Cadet members	£212
Junior members	£422.50
Junior direct debit – 9 payments from 1 <sup>st</sup> April	£49 pcm
Country member	£470

In addition to the above all flying members must pay the BGA fee (last year £32).

### Non-flying members

Associate	£93
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### Facilities Fees

Glider in trailer park	£423
SLMG	£1,350
Second (empty) trailer	£222
Hangar space (powered aircraft)	£3,480 plus VAT
Trailer in hangar during winter (for 4 months)	£90 pcm

All annual facility fees are payable by 31<sup>st</sup> December.

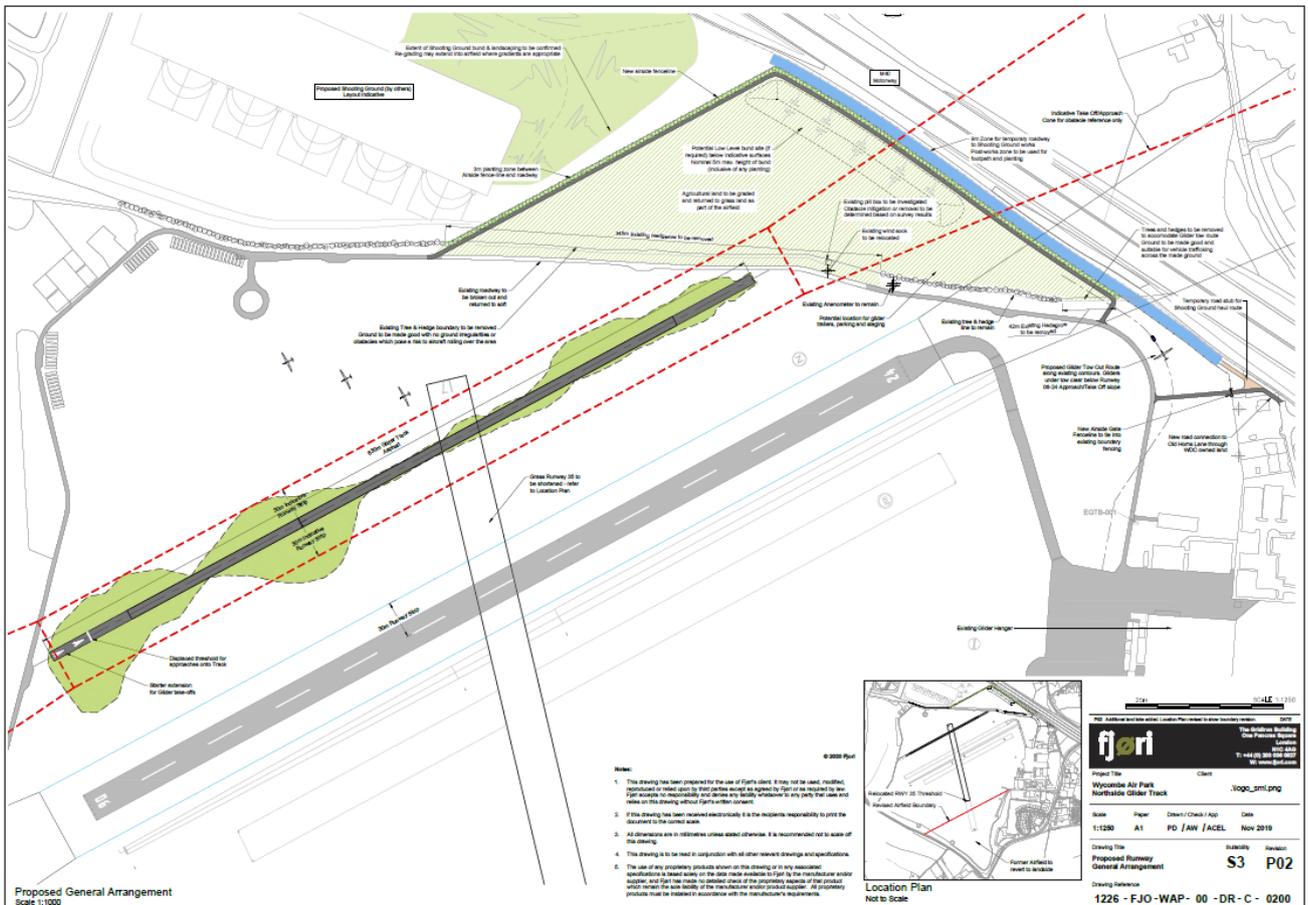
John Otty – Treasurer

## Latest news on the Northside project

The Northside project has recently made a few leaps forward, and although we still don't have a definite timetable, the future is becoming much clearer.

The headline item is that the Council has reached an agreement for purchasing the "Dashwood" field – the triangle of land between the aerodrome and the motorway - and this means that the shape and extent of the northside gliding area is now certain. The council will shortly submit a planning application for the various changes and works that will be needed to bring this to reality.

The plan below will form part of the planning application, and shows the proposed general arrangement, the extra land, the new take-off strip, and the access road from Old Horn's Lane. The rigging area and trailers are shown beside the northside hangers, and it is proposed (although not yet agreed) that this is where the club's new hanger and clubhouse will be built.



The wavy green area around the take-off area shows the filling needed to create a level surface. There will also be some ground works needed to level off the landing area, and the new field, but this is not shown on the drawing.

In terms of operating area – it's approximately the same as the area we currently use on the southside – the little gliders shown on the drawing are K21s drawn to scale.

The planning application process should be completed within 13 weeks of submission – this is rarely achieved, more news about that as it comes to hand.

Robert Turner



## Make use of your leisure time with BGA webinars

The BGA has an extensive programme of webinars over the coming months covering a wide range of topics from ‘What happens when the wind stops’ – who hasn’t asked themselves that? – to how to get an SPL. Details of the sessions to come, and links to previous sessions, are here:

<https://members.gliding.co.uk/webinars/>

Of particular interest to owners is the one on maintenance presented by Gordon MacDonald, the BGA’s Chief Technical Officer, who has a wealth of experience and advice to impart. You can watch it here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yPD36aycvs>



## Coming soon.....



.....winter Condor sessions. Brush up your thermalling technique, learn cross country tactics, fly over exciting terrain.....look out for the news on Whatsapp.





## Dates for your diary (subject to change)

### 2020

- 21<sup>st</sup> November: Awards Evening – by zoom  
~~19<sup>th</sup> December: Members' Christmas party~~



### 2021

- 13<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> March: Spring expedition to Lleweni Parc  
5<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June: Summer expedition to Montricher, Switzerland  
10<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> July: Booker Regionals  
9<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October: Aboyne expedition



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## Club Communications

We use WhatsApp groups, as below:

**Booker Gliding Club** – general club information and notifications including details of online daily briefings

**Booker Instructors** – information and swap requests for instructors

**Booker Expeditions** – set up in the run up to each expedition.

If you wish to be included in any of these groups, contact the CFI.

**Booker Banter** - for general chitchat – contact Jeremy Gilbey

The **Booker GC website** at [www.bookergliding.co.uk](http://www.bookergliding.co.uk) has a Members Page. This contains the latest Club news snippets and links to previous newsletters, meeting minutes and several useful and informative Club documents. The Members page is accessible to everybody (not just members) but certain documents, such as committee minutes need a user ID and password. To obtain these, go to the members' page and click on the 'email Administrator' link. Don't forget to *include your name and membership number*.

**For the latest news about what's happening check out**

<http://bookergc.blogspot.com/> and <https://www.facebook.com/bookerglidingclub>



\*\*\* All views expressed within the newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Club or committee \*\*\*

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. If you would like to submit an article for a future edition please send it to Jane Moore at [jxmoore@gmail.com](mailto:jxmoore@gmail.com)

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